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Abolition of Police chowki at Kootupuzha

* 318 Q.—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have got any proposal to abolish the Police chowki (outpost) at Kootupuzha on the Malabar-Coorg border?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir.

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR : The chowki was established on the border between Malabar and Coorg when there was no Prohibition in Coorg. As Prohibition has been introduced in Coorg also now, there is no necessity for such a chowki there. Will the Government, therefore, abolish it?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, this matter will be considered by the Kerala Government and a decision will be taken by that State.

(Questions Nos. 319 to 323 not put by the hon. Member.)

Development of Vazhappucheri, Perambur, Madras

* 324 Q.—SRI S. DAIVASIGAMONEY (on behalf of Sri S. Pakkiriswamy Pillai) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Vazhappucheri in the Perambur area in the city which has been declared as a slum would now be taken up for improvement;

(*b*) if so, the agency that would take up this improvement work; and

(*c*) how long it would take for completing this work?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The Corporation of Madras.

(*c*) Proceedings for acquisition of the lands under the Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Act are under way. The improvement of the slum will be completed within about a year from the date of acquisition of the lands covered by the slum and of the additional lands required for housing the surplus slum dwellers.

Cyclone relief loan application

* 325 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of cyclone relief loan applications received by the local and district authorities from the agriculturists in Pudukkottai division, Tiruchirappalli district, till now talukwar;

(*b*) the number of applications sanctioned talukwar; and

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(c) the total amount disbursed in all the three taluks of the division?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) to (c) The information is furnished below.

(1)	Tirumayam taluk. (2)	Alangudi taluk. (3)	Kulathur taluk. (4)
Number of applications received.	3,965	9,320	175
Number of applications sanctioned.	1,596	2,931	8
The amount disbursed.	Rs. 6,24,645	Rs. 10,15,245	Rs. 2,550

Workers of " Elaka Estate ", Olavakkot

* 326 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any prosecution was launched against some of the workers of " Elaka Estate " near Olavakkot, South Malabar, in the first quarter year of 1956 and on what charges?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Yes, Sir. Three workers of the Elaka Rubber Estate were prosecuted for an offence under section 435, I.P.C., on the charge that they had set fire to some rubber plants.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Is it not a fact that the Magistrate who tried the case has commented that the case was foisted upon the workers because of their Union activities, and so discharged the accused?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, my information is that the persons have been acquitted. But I have not got a copy of the judgment and so, I am not aware of the passages in it to which the hon. Member has made a reference.

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI : Will the Government send for a copy of the judgment and peruse it? If it is found that the case has been foisted by the police on the accused workers because of their Union activities, will the Government take any drastic action against the police for foisting such a case on the workers?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : It is not a question of the police foisting a case on the workers. The manager gave a complaint that three persons had set fire to some rubber plants and caused damage. It is on that a charge-sheet was laid. Therefore, I do not think that the police should be held responsible for this purpose. Still whatever action is necessary will have to be taken by the Kerala State because I do not think we have the time now to send for a copy of the judgment and then take action.